



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

355 W. North Temple • 3 Triad Center • Suite 350 • Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 • 801-538-5340

March 28, 1988

To: File

From: Holland Shepherd, Reclamation Soils Specialist *HWS*

Re: Site Inspection, Wilson-Silverbell, M/037/027, San Juan County, Utah

On March 15, 1988, Frank Filas and I visited the Wilson-Silverbell Mine site. The mine has not been active this year, according to the annual report. However some surface activity was apparent.

The new mine water pond, to the north of the mine shaft has been completed. Very little standing water was observed in the pond. The operator has indicated in the annual report that the construction of the pond disturbed 6.8 acres of land surface.

The tailings pile directly west of the mine shaft looks like it has been expanded with either new or old material to the west. The ground surface at the western edge of the pile appears to have been disturbed and tailings material piled on top of it. Also large amounts of vegetative material has been removed from the proximity of the road, the tailings pile, and newly constructed pond. A small soil stockpile was situated at the west end of the new pond, but for the amount of disturbance it did not appear that much other soil was stockpiled.

I spoke with Mr. Neils Haubold of Umetco, over the phone, on March 28, 1988, concerning the topsoil stockpiling. He indicated to me that much of the material used to construct the embankments for the new evaporation pond was topsoil material. This material will be respread for topsoil material at final reclamation, and the operator will be asked to protect it during the interum.

hs
cc: L. Braxton
F. Filas
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